Abstract

An exemplary scalable print spooler efficiently prints data on a printer and is most effective in use with a dedicated print server. One use of the invention is with a print server that services a large number of client computers having applications programs having a need to print data. These could include, but are not limited to, word processing applications programs. A server computer has software that implements a server print spooler for co-ordinating the printing of data sent to the print server by the client computers. A number of printers are coupled to the server computer for printing under direction of the server print spooler. Client calls to the print spooler are accomplished by asynchronous procedures that communicate by means of an remote procedure call channel. A thread pool at the print server services these calls without unreasonable context switching between client requests.